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The  
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*Has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.*

*Therefore, this*

United States Patent

*Grants to the person(s) having title to this patent the right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States of America or importing the invention into the United States of America for the term set forth below, subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by law.*

*If this application was filed prior to June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is the longer of seventeen years from the date of grant of this patent or twenty years from the earliest effective U.S. filing date of the application, subject to any statutory extension.*

*If this application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is twenty years from the U.S. filing date, subject to any statutory extension. If the application contains a specific reference to an earlier filed application or applications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c), the term of the patent is twenty years from the date on which the earliest application was filed, subject to any statutory extension.*

*Bruce Lehman*

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

*Pandra Morton*

Attest



US005639119A

## United States Patent [19]

[11] Patent Number: 5,639,119

Plate et al.

[45] Date of Patent: Jun. 17, 1997

[54] FORKLIFT STABILIZING APPARATUS

629092 9/1978 U.S.S.R. .... 280/755

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## [57] ABSTRACT

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[22] Filed: Dec. 5, 1994

## Related U.S. Application Data

[62] Division of Ser. No. 986,145, Dec. 4, 1992, abandoned.

[51] Int. CL<sup>6</sup> ..... B60R 27/00[52] U.S. Cl. .... 280/754; 280/6.1; 280/6.12;  
280/755; 280/840; 280/DIG. 1[58] Field of Search ..... 280/754, 755,  
280/DIG. 1, 840, 6.1, 6.11, 6.12

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Disclosed herein is a vehicle including a frame, and a stabilizer apparatus including a pressure source, first and second fluid-actuated stabilizer assemblies connected respectively to the front and rear axles shiftably moveable on the frame, one of the first and second stabilizer assemblies normally being locked against extension and contraction in the absence of pressurization thereof by the pressure source, and the other of the first and second stabilizer assemblies normally being free to extend and contract in the absence of pressurization thereof by the pressure source, a hydraulic circuit connected between the pressure source and the first and second fluid actuated stabilizer assemblies and including a flow controller operable between a first mode wherein the pressure source is disconnected from the first and second stabilizer assemblies, whereby the one of the stabilizer assemblies is locked against extension and retraction, thereby locking the axle connected thereto against shifting movement relative to the frame, and whereby the other of the stabilizer assemblies is free to extend and retract, thereby permitting shifting movement relative to the frame of the axle connected thereto, and a second mode wherein the pressure source is selectively connectible to the first and second stabilizer assemblies for selective pressurization thereof by the pressure source so as to selectively extend and retract the first and second stabilizer assemblies.

19 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

